

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet(s) of drawings include changes to FIG. 1. The changes to this Figure are as follows.

On Sheet 1, which includes Fig. 1, please remove the designation "L2" from the axis between element 6 and 12.

Attachment: Replacement sheet
 Annotated sheet showing changes

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the non-final Office Action dated February 23, 2006. The present Amendment amends claims 3, 12, and 14 and cancels claims 1, 2, 9-11, and 13 in order to further clarify a portion of the scope sought to be patented, and otherwise disputes certain findings of fact made in connection with the rejection of the claims. Support for these amendments can be found variously throughout the specification, including, for example, original claims 1, 11 and 13. Claims 1, 2, 9-11, and 13 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as to their underlying subject matter. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 3-8, 12, and 14 are presently pending in the application, each of which is believed to be in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the present Amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant thanks the examiner for recognizing claims 3-8, 12, and 18 as containing allowable subject matter. In accordance with the examiner's suggestion, claims 3-8, 12, and 18 have been amended so as to be set forth in independent form. Withdrawal of the objection to these claims and allowance of the same are therefore respectfully requested.

Claim to Priority

Acknowledgement of the proper receipt of the certified formal papers filed in connection with Applicant's claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) is noted with appreciation.

Information Disclosure Statement

It is also noted with appreciation that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on October 27, 2003 has been considered by the Examiner.

Specification

The Office Action indicates that the Abstract is over 150 words. However, the Abstract, as originally submitted, is only 140 words, which is less than the maximum 150 words, as is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.72(b). Therefore, no amendment to the Abstract is necessary. Withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract is therefore courteously solicited.

Drawings

According to the Examiner's instructions, a Replacement Sheet for Figure 1 has also been attached to this Amendment in order to remove the designation "L2" from the axis between element 6 and 12. This change is made without prejudice or disclaimer as to the underlying subject matter of "L2," as originally presented in Figure 1. Accordingly, entry of this corrected drawing and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is courteously solicited.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If the examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. WEN-0019 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: May 18, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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ANNOTATED MARKED-UP DRAWINGS

